

100
WALLACE,

A

POEM,

IN ELEVEN BOOKS;

COMPOSED ABOUT THE YEAR 1361.

BY HENRY,

A BLIND BARD;

AND NOW

Translated into Modern English Poetry from the most
Authentic and Correct Edition,

BY ANTHONY MACMILLAN.

With a DISSERTATION on the nature and execution of the Poem;
NOTES Biographical, Genealogical, Geographical, Explanatory,
and Critical; also FULL ARGUMENTS to the different Books,
now more equally divided into Eighteen; and an AP-
PENDIX to each Book of authorities in confirmation,
with a Translation of such as are in Latin.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

EDINBURGH:

PRINTED FOR PETER HILL,

1799.

THE
ACTS AND DEEDS
OF THE
ILLUSTRIOUS
AND
VALIANT CHAMPION
SIR WILLIAM WALLACE,
KNIGHT OF ELLERSLIE.



Jesu, Salvator! ex jussu,
Mihi exponere ad finem dignum
Predictum librum atque benignum.

O Jesus! Saviour of the human race!
Grant me, I now beseech, of thy pure grace,
That I this book to a good end explain,
And Wallace' virtues their just praise may gain.

DISSERTATION

ON

W A L L A C E,

A P O E M.

IT may appear singular to some persons to see this Poem here, almost for the first time, considered as an Epic Poem : but to persons of liberal education and just taste, it will be easy to instruct its title.

To constitute an Epic Poem, it seems necessary to have for a subject some grand enterprize, in which the Hero is brought forward to convey instruction by example. Thus the Iliad has for its subject, ' The wrath of Achilles, the ' cause of numberless woes to the Greeks ;' to teach unanimity to the States of Greece, by showing the bad effects of dissention among their allied princes, in the war against Troy. The Odyssey has, ' the wanderings of Ulysses,' and his adventures to regain his kingdom ; to point out the hurtfulness of these expeditions in that age, by encouraging rebellion in the absence of their kings. The Æneid, Æneas' settlement in Italy, to prove the hereditary right of the Julian family to the empire of Rome and to deification.

Leonidas, the defence of the Straits of Thermopylae, with three hundred Spartans, against Xerxes' army of more than a million, to inculcate an exalted patriotism.

To apply this to the Poem of Wallace, the subject of it, is THE ACTIONS OF WALLACE, in opposition to Edward's attempt at the conquest of Scotland: To this one point the whole is reducible; even his death is not inconsistent with the unity of the piece. Having thrice relieved the kingdom, and persuaded Bruce to return and take the crown, to which he had right, he, after a glorious life, dies like Leonidas, a martyr to the cause. The whole is the most shining pattern of patriotic virtue that can be imagined.

No objection can be started against the claim of this Poem to be considered as an Epic Poem, from its being supposed to be founded on historical truth. Camoens' maritime Epic Poem, on the discovery of the East Indies by the Lusitanian Prince, stands in the same situation. Glover, in his Leonidas, has taken the outline of his Poem from the authentic history of the Defence of Thermopylae, as related by Herodotus, Plutarch, Diodorus Siculus, and others. The ancients too, as to the groundwork of their's, have written according to the truest accounts they could obtain: Homer certainly did, and Virgil followed the most popular traditions of his time, indeed the fact most cavilled at, of Æneas and Dido being cotemporary, has of late, by a more minute attention to chronology, been very much cleared up.

If Wallace ends tragically, so does Leonidas, so in some measure Paradise Lost, as to Adam; and the Iliad is little better in this respect, betwixt the deaths of Patroclus and Hector, and the predictions of Achilles's own death before Troy

Considering

Considering the time at which the Poem of Wallace was written, it has particular merit, being composed so early as the fourteenth century: The Iliad it is believed was scarcely then known in this country, and the critics of antiquity as little, yet it is extremely complete. As to the machinery of the Iliad, Homer followed the popular creed of his country. In this poem the same plan is adopted. If Homer had his combat of Diomed and Mars, Ossian that of Fingal and the spirit of Loda; the Author of this Poem has also his *speciosa miracula*; and the encounter of Wallace with Fadoun's Ghost is not inferior in terrible sublimity to either of the two. His Hero is like Homer's, the fulfilment of prophecy and prediction. There is besides a sublime species of allegorical vision displayed in the appearance of the tutelar Saint of Scotland and another celestial personage; nor is the vision at the end without considerable merit. One may also discover in this poem the principles of judicial astrology; some of the incidents are attributed to stellar influence; to the conjunction or opposition of certain planets; and by giving to the planets the names of the Heathen Deities they are introduced with a pleasant effect. The Poem is therefore neither destitute of machinery, nor overwhelmed with and buried under it. The style is much of the dramatic kind; and not only the characters of individuals, but the national characters of the English, Irish, and French, nicely discriminated. There are many beautiful descriptions, some of the appearances of the face of nature, in the different seasons; one of a fine morning, another of a dreary winter-night, and one of Wallace arming himself. The lamentation for him whilst in prison at one time, and the ode on his struggle betwixt love and glory, at another, are highly pathetic. If few

families occur, they are taken from nature, and well chosen. The time of action may be made out to correspond with a passage in the Poem, where it is said to have been for six years and seven months, on making allowance for times of peace and absence. Indeed the time and scene of each book may be distinctly traced.

Upon the whole, I apprehend this Poem has an undoubted title to rank as an Epic Poem.

COMMENDATIONS OF AUTHORS ON HENRY'S POEM OF WALLACE.

INTEGRUM librum Gulielmi Wallacei Henricus a natiuitate luminibus captus, meae infantiae tempore cudit, et quae vulgo dicebantur, carmine vulgari, in quo peritus erat conscripsit, (Ego autem talibus scriptis solum in parte fidem impertior :) Qui historiarum recitatione coram principibus vectum et vestitam, quo dignus erat nactus est.

Johan. Major. Hist. Brit. Lib. 4. c. 14. p. 169.

‘ Henry, who was blind from his birth, composed, and,
‘ during my infancy, had committed to writing, according
‘ to the common traditions, and in Scots metre, in which
‘ he was skilful, a whole volume concerning William Wal-
‘ lace. (But I do not believe every thing I find in such
‘ writings * :) By reciting his historical poems before the
‘ princes

* As a historian he credited only what was purely *historical*, but considered the *machinery* as *poetical licence*.

‘princes and great men of the kingdom, he gained his
‘food and cloathing, of which he was worthy.’

Henricus quidam a nativitate caecus, rara tamen ingenii felicitate, Homerus alter, patriam linguam supra aetatem suam dicavit: Scripsit operosum et grande opus, versu vernaculo, de gestis Gulielmi Wallasei, Lib. x.—Vivebat anno 1361.

Tho. Dempster, Hist. Eccles. Scot. l. 8. p. 349.

‘Henry, a man blind from his birth, but of a singular
‘felicity of genius,—another Homer,—sung, or rehearsed,
‘his native language above the stile and composition of
‘the age he lived in. He left in writing an elaborate
‘and grand work, in vernacular verse, of the actions of
‘William Wallace, in ten books. He lived in 1361.’

Although this work is professedly confined to England, yet I cannot pass over two Scotch poets of this period *, who have adorned the English language by a strain of versification, expression, and poetical imagery far superior to their age, and who consequently deserve to be mentioned in a general review of the progress of our national poetry. They have written two poems; one of them is John Barbour Archdeacon of Aberdeen. He was educated at Oxford; and Rymer has preserved an instrument for his safe passage into England, in order to prosecute his studies in that university in the years 1357 and 1365. David Bruce, king of Scotland, gave him a pension for life, as a reward for his Poem called the HISTORY OF ROBERT BRUCE, KING

* Previous to 1372.

KING OF THE SCOTS. The other wrote a poem on the exploits of SIR WILLIAM WALLACE. It was first printed in 1601, and very lately reprinted at Edinburgh in 4to (black letter) with the following title, "The ACTS and "DEEDS of the most famous and valiant Champion SIR "WILLIAM WALLACE of ELLERSLIE, written by BLIND "HARRY in the year 1361; together with ARNALDI "BLAIR RELATIONES, Edin. 1758." No circumstances of the life of our blind Bard are related by Dempster.

Warton's Hist. of English Poetry, B. I. P. II.

ON THE DATE OF THE POEM.

IN an Essay on Henry and his Poem of Wallace, prefixed to the Perth edition 1790, the writer seems inclined to bring the date of it so low as the 1446; and principally from what Major has said above, and because, in a life of Major by Crawford, he is said to have been born about that time: But the internal evidence arising from the book itself seems sufficient to decide the question as to the date. There is scarce any historical fact mentioned in it later than the references to Barbour's Bruce, and none later than the reign of David Bruce, who died in the year 1370, though there are abundance before: Among others the marriage of Walter Stewart and Marjory Bruce; the death of Sir Alexander Ramsay; and the Author's advising with Wallace of Craigie; for it was Lindsay had Craigie in Wallace's time, and was one of his associates: but John Wallace of Riccarton married the heiress of Sir John Lindsay of Craigie in the reign of David Bruce.—And what puts the matter beyond a doubt, is,

is, that some things which happened about the time of Wallace's death are referred to as being in the memory of persons living when the poem was written, and must therefore have happened in the 1305 ; so that the 1361, or 56 years after, is the most probable date of any, and which did not render this anywise impossible. Major seems to have mistaken the date of a transcript of the poem for that of the original manuscript, printing not having been then introduced into the kingdom. The copy in the Advocates Library, it is true, is dated in 1448 ; but there is a copy of Barbour's Bruce, made the year following by the same hand, though we know it was composed in David Bruce's time ; which proves the copy of Wallace was a transcript as well as the other *. The date therefore given by Derster, by the editor of the black letter edition 1758, and Warton, seems to be right, which fixes it about 1361.

* Mr John Ramsay, a monk of Perth, by order of his superiors in the Monastery there, made these copies of both. Indeed, the words *ex jussu exponere*, in the title, cannot be better explained than to transcribe in consequence of orders for that purpose ; but could never apply to an original copy.

PREFACE.

P R E F A C E.

TO the greatest part of English readers the poems of Chaucer, the English poet, composed in the fourteenth century, are unintelligible, *a fortiori* must those of Henry written in Scotland at the same period.

Notwithstanding the obsolete language of Henry's poem on the actions of Wallace; notwithstanding the families and connections of his associates were forgotten; and the bigoted editors of last century had mutilated the machinery of the poem, it was universally read and admired.

The edition by Lieutenant Hamilton, Gilbertfield, in 1721, is in the *vulgar Scottish dialect* of the beginning of this century, and even a number of the more obsolete words of the older copies retained;—whole pages are interpolated in some places, and as much left out in others. He adopted all the mutilations of former editors. Not sufficiently acquainted with the language to translate it, he has given a coarse paraphrase: A scrupulous attention to the sense of particular passages was not therefore to be expected; and the principal idea would impress itself on the mind of a Judge of Epic Poetry or Heroic Composition, who should read the Poem only in this edition, would be surprized, that a work so well planned should be so miserably executed: But when he read the two editions from the old manuscript he would find this applicable only to Hamilton's edition, not to the original. Nor has Hamilton's edition any notes or other illustration. In fact any of the classics must have suffered much under such a translator. Yet this is the edition most commonly to be met with.

The

The black letter edition in 1758 is the same as the oldest manuscript, only more modern in the spelling. But from the quantity of words thus incapable of alteration, and the black letter in which it is printed, it is difficult to be read or understood. It seems however to have been executed by a person who perfectly understood the original, and possesses considerable merit. An Appendix is added to this edition, containing *Relationes Arnaldi Blair*, with a Latin Commentary thereon, mostly made up of extracts from the Latin histories of Fordun, Walsingham, Knighton, Major, Leslie, Buchanan, &c. This is the edition from which Warton so much commends the Poem.

In 1790, a most correct *literatim* copy of the oldest manuscript or transcript, preserved in the Advocate's Library at Edinburgh, was taken, under the eye of the Earl of Buchan, and published at Perth in three elegant pocket volumes; in which in an additional title page, it is entituled, THE METRICAL HISTORY OF SIR WILLIAM WALLACE; an *Essay* is prefixed, consisting of conjectures on Henry, and critical remarks on Wallace's life; *contents* are given to the different Books; an *appendix* is added to the work, giving the *chronology* of about one-third of it; and an *alphabetical account* of the most remarkable persons of the Scottish party. But the Book itself, in the language of 1361, cannot be read unless by persons accustomed to the perusal of old publications.

Induced by the merit of this old Poem in its most perfect state, the following *translation* or *alteration* of it into *modern English poetry*, the first of the kind ever attempted, is now offered to the public. The foregoing *original dissertation* is given on the nature and execution of the Poem: *Full arguments* are prefixed to the different Books, now more equally divided into eighteen; with the *time* and

scene

scene of each ; and notes at the bottom of the page, containing the genealogy of the different persons both of the Scottish and English parties, as they occur ; an explanation of the feudal offices, customs, and questions ; also of the situation of the places mentioned, and critical ; and an appendix is also added to each Book of authorities in confirmation, with a translation of such of them as are in Latin. The plan of it being thus formed, the historical and genealogical collections, in the two last mentioned editions, have been of considerable service in throwing light on the subject, though several other sources of information have been resorted to.

The translation of the Poem is made as literal as possible, allowing for the difference of the times, and the two odes, the one in the second, and the other in the sixth Book, are given in stanzas similar to the original. In short, it is expressed in such a manner as it may be supposed Henry would have done himself had he lived in the present age, or the mode of expression been the same then as now ; with such illustration as the lapse of more than four hundred years had rendered necessary.

Now that the genealogy of the associates of Wallace is known, the work tends to display the patriotism and valour of a number of the principal nobility and baronage in Scotland, viz. the Lord High Stewart of Scotland, one of the predecessors of the Royal family of Great Britain, the predecessors of the Dukes of Richmond and Lenox, Gordon, Argyle, Athole, and Montrose ; of the Marquises of Tweeddale, Annandale, and Bute ; of the Countess of Loudoun ; of the Earls of Buchan, Eglinton, Cassilis, Galloway, Aberdeen, and Fife ; of Lords Gray, Napier, Douglas, and Perth ; Lady Winifred Constable Maxwell of Nithsdale, Lady Ross Bailie ; Gordons of Kenmore, Dundaffes

Dundaffes of Arniston, Blairs of Blair; and many others; from whose assistance, and what appears from history, the substance of the Poet's account appears in general the more probable.

From the genealogy of the persons so concerned, this important lesson may be learned, that the love of one's country is his truest interest: The descendents of those who stood true to it, at that trying period, have risen to wealth and honours, or those they enjoyed increased and flourished: But those who were traitors to their country, though with apparent advantage at the time, are all, all, extinct for some generations past.

It is only necessary to mention further, that Wallace was the strenuous defender of a constitution consisting of a King and Estates of Parliament. He was Regent during an interregnum; and was betrayed whilst assisting the rightful King to recover the Crown. What he contended for was that Scotland should not come under the Crown of England, unless by marriage or natural succession. Had Margaret of Norway, heiress to the Scottish Crown, lived to be married to Edward the First's son, and Edward II. and his Queen succeeded to both the Scottish and English Crowns, Wallace and his associates would have been their most loyal subjects; unless Edward had endeavoured to deprive the Scots of their Parliaments without an union, of their representation by their freeholders, or put their lands and offices into English hands. As the present Royal Family of Great Britain are in the right of all the claimants at that period to both Crowns, the question then contended for is now at an end, and the Poem may be read and judged of every where, according to its intrinsic merit.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

NATHANIEL Agnew, Esq; Sheriff-clerk, Wigton.
Lieutenant Colonel Braban, 53d regiment.
Signore Bernardino Nicolao Escorcio, London.
William Birtwhistle, Esq; of Raeberry.
Right Honourable Earl of Buchan.
His Excellency Governor Campbell, Bermudas.
Captain T. G. Caulfield, Navy.
Robert Christie, Esq; Army Agent, Suffolk Street, London.
James Carson, Esq; of Barfcob.
Robert Cairns, Esq; of Barnbarroch, Glasgow, 5 copies.
Hon. Lady Winifred Constable Maxwell of Nithsdale,
3 copies.
William Copland, Esq; of Collifton.
Mr Andrew Caldwell of Dublin, Air.
Douglas Hamilton Craik, Esq; of Arbigland.
Thomas Daniel, Esq; Attorney General, Dominica.
George Dempster, Esq; of Dunnichen.
John Hamilton Dempster, Esq; of Skibo.
Mrs A. Dempster, London.
James Dalyell, Esq; younger of Barncrosh.
Mr John Dalyell writer, Wigton.
Major James Dodd, Dumfries.
Mr Nathaniel Fullarton writer, Newton Douglas.
Right Hon. Earl of Galloway, 2 copies.
Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Gammel, 104th regiment.
Hon. John Gordon of Kenmore, 3 copies.
Hon. Adam Gordon of Ironcraigie, 2 copies.
James Gordon, Esq; younger of Culvennan, advocate,
3 copies.

Thomas

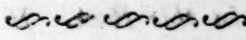
- Thomas Gordon, Esq; of Balmaghie, London, 2 copies.
 William Gordon, Esq; Madeira.
 T. W. Gordon, Ensign 3d guards.
 Rev. Robert Gordon minister of Corsfairn.
 Rev. John Gillespie minister of Kells.
 Thomas Grierfon, Esq; of Garroch.
 John Hale, Esq; St James's, London.
 Richard Hankey, Esq; Fenchurch Street, London.
 Sir John Hay of Park-place, Part.
 Andrew Houston, Esq; of Jordanhill, Lieutenant Colonel
 Princess Royals' own Light Dragoons.
 Mr William Hislop, jun. Dumfries.
 James Hannay, Esq; of Blarinnie, Lochbank.
 Mr John Hathorn writer, Wigton.
 Ja. Hunter, Esq; of Lochrenny.
 Peter Johnston, Esq; of Carnfalloch.
 Mr Samuel Jolly writer, Wigton.
 Kirkcudbright Subscription Library.
 Walter Sloan Laurie, Esq; of Redcastle.
 Lady Miller, Glenleepark.
 John M'Taggart, Esq; London, 10 copies.
 David Maxwell, Esq; of Cardoneß.
 James Moffat, Esq; of Drumwhirn.
 Bailie John Murray, jun. Newgalloway.
 Mr Robert M'Keand writer, Wigton.
 J. Welch Maxwell, Esq; Dumfries.
 Simon Mackenzie, Esq; ditto.
 Mr Alexander M'Neil, Wigton.
 Mr John Milroy writer, Whithorn.
 Mr James M'Connel, Manchester.
 Mrs M'Millan of Holm.
 John Napier, Esq; of Arkland, accountant, Kirkcudbright.

William Newall, Esq; Waterfide.
Thomas Newall, Esq; Stranfasket.
Capt. William Newall of Drummanifter.
Mr James Nifh, factor to the Earl of Galloway.
Mr Gilbert Nifh writer, Stranraer.
Rich. Alexander Ofwald, Esq; of Auchincruive, 2 copies.
John Robinson, Esq; Dominica.
Mr Robert Robertson writer, Air.
David Shaw, Esq; Army Agent, Suffolk Street, London.
Thomas Smith, Esq; Inglifton.
John Spalding, Esq; M. P. London.
Hon. Charles Stewart, Galloway-house.
Mr John Thomson, jun. factor to James Murray, Esq; of
Broughton.
Sir Thomas Wallace Dunlop of Craigie, Bart. 6 copies.
Mr John Wallace, Kirkland, Kirkinner.
Mr Ofwald Weir, Mount Hamilton.

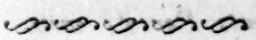
✂ So soon as there are a sufficient number of Subscribers, the whole will be sent to the Press, and published in four volumes, at 2s. *per* volume, or 8s. the whole. Meantime, if there is a reasonable sale, the work will be continued in numbers at 6d. each, and not exceed 18 numbers. If the demand will admit of the expence, a head of Wallace from a beautiful painting will be given.

WALLACE.

WALLACE.



BOOK I.



THE ARGUMENT.

The ancient Scots still famous for valour and patriotism ;—among others Wallace, a gentleman of a respectable family, particularly eminent.—The dispute about the succession to the crown of Scotland is submitted to Edward I. of England, who proposes the candidate to be preferred should hold of him as superior ;—Baliol agrees, and is successful :—The Parliament of Scotland disclaim Edward's superiority ; on which he raises an army to seize on the kingdom ;—takes Berwick and Dunbar ;—proceeds to Montrose ;—sends for Baliol whom he deposes ;—usurps the Crown, and takes the sons of a number of the principal persons with him to secure their obedience.—Wallace's father and elder brother go for safety to the Lenox, or Dunbartonshire ;—his mother and himself go to her granduncle at Kilspindy in the Carse of Gowrie.—He is sent to school at Dundee ;—he grieves for his country, and wishes for means to relieve it ;—insulted by Selby, son of Edward's governor at Dundee ;—a scuffle ensues, when Wallace kills him ;—is pursued by the English ;—disguises himself and escapes ;—returns to Ayrshire, where he hears of his father and brother having been killed ;—goes to reside with his uncle Sir Richard Wallace at Riccarton ;—whilst fishing at Irvine water, a dispute arises

betwixt him and five of the followers of Lord Percy, the English governor at Air, who offers to seize his fishing;—he kills or puts them to flight; on which he changes his place of residence.

After, an account of Wallace's parentage, the troubles in the kingdom, and his going to Dundee. The time of ten months is taken up in this Book. He kills Selby in 1295;—in February 1296, returns to Airshire;—in April or beginning of May, defeats Percy's men. The scene begins at Dundee, (so far as relates to Wallace), and then changes to Airshire.

OUR ancestors, of whom we ought to read,
And hold in mind each honourable deed,
Through perfect sloth we constantly pass o'er,
Or other business interests us more.

Honour in war to gain they still were bent,
As hath been seen in all the time now spent;
And oft they prov'd on those of English blood,
Who never yet to Scotland would do good,
Unless on force, and contrary their will,
Whatever kindness might be shown them still.

For its fact, well known both far and wide,
How they have wrought, out of a spiteful pride,
Scotland to hold still under heretofore,
In vain;—our chiefs themselves so bravely bore.

Of all our heroes merit endless fame,
SIR WILLIAM WALLACE far the foremost came;

Whose

1. 6. *As hath been seen, &c.*] This is beautifully described by Buchanan, in his Poem on the marriage of Francis II. of France with Mary, afterwards Queen of Scots. See Appendix I.

Whose brave progenitors here long had stood,
 Of ancient lineage, and true Scottish blood.
 Sir Ronald Crawford, Sheriff was of Air,
 A daughter had, most exquisitely fair ;
 And young Sir Ronald, May'r then of that place,
 Full sister to, endow'd with ev'ry grace :
 This lady, Malcolm Wallace got to wed,
 Who Ellerslie in heritage then had,
 Auchinbothee, and many another place ;
 Great grandson to a former Wallace was,
 And who before most valiantly had fought,

20

25

When

l. 19. Sir Ronald.] He was proprietor of the estates of Loudoun, Corbie, &c. in the county of Air, and of Auchinames in the county of Renfrew.

Ib. Sheriff.] The ancient *Vicecomes*, or Chief Judge of the county, by right of succession ; a jurisdiction hereditary in Scotland till the year 1748, when they were bought up by the Crown, since which time deputies are appointed for life, or good behaviour, who must be advocates, or barristers, of three years standing.

l. 21. Young Sir Ronald.] He succeeded his father in his estates and office. He was possess'd of such prudence as to hold both, and of such goodness of heart as to be of great service to his country. He interested himself warmly in the concerns of his sister and nephew. He was at last treacherously killed for his loyalty. His grand-daughter, an heiress, married Sir Duncan Campbell, ancestor of the Earls of Loudoun.

When Walter, heir of Wales, from Warren fought ;
 Who wishes for more knowledge on this head,
 The Stewarts pedigree may aptly read. 30

But Malcolm Wallace, and this lady bright,
 Begot Sir Malcolm, a most gallant knight,
 Then William ;—Cowan's Chronicle doth bear ;
 Who rescued Scotland thrice, free from all fear,
 When it was lost, through treason, and undone, 35
 Opprest by foes, and cruelly o'er-run.

When Alexander, at Kinghorn in Fife,
 Had lost, by accident, his royal life,
 Three years without a Sov'reign was the state,
 From whence arose a furious debate ; 40
 For the Prince David, Earl of Huntingdon,
 Three daughters had, who were excell'd by none,
 From whom Bruce, Baliol, and Hastings, spring ;
 The Bruce and Baliol strive who should be King.
 Baliol claim'd of the *eldest, lineally ;*
 Bruce of the *second, the first male to be.* 45

To

l. 28. Walter, Heir of Wales.] Walter Lord High Stewart of Scotland, on which account his heirs took the name of Stewart, was son of Fleance and Maria Mnesta, daughter of Llowellyn Prince of Wales, and ancestor of Robert the first of the Royal family of Stewart in Scotland, Fleance having gone to Wales to avoid the tyranny of Macbeth.

l. 30. Stewart's pedigree.] See Appendix (2.)

l. 46. First male to be.] Alexander III. King of Scotland, having been thrown from his horse in a hunting party and killed, and the heiress to the Crown, his granddaughter the Princess Margaret, daughter of Eric King of

To England then, and unto France, they send,
Of this dispute to learn how it should end.

Bad fortune 'twas indeed they happen'd fo,
Relief to seek from their most mortal foe.

50

King Edward Longshanks had begun a war
On Gascony, and had an army there ;

Which country he then claim'd as heritage ;

But, when assembl'd were his Baronage,

Hearing

of Norway, dying before she reached Scotland ; the whole posterity of his father Alexander II. and grandfather William the Lion, being extinct, the right of the Crown devolved on the heirs of David Earl of Huntingdon, brother to William the Lion. He had left three daughters ; the eldest married to Allan Lord of Galloway ; the second to Robert Bruce, Lord of Annandale ; the youngest to Henry Hastings an Englishman.—Allan, Lord of Galloway, left no sons by his wife ; his eldest daughter married John Baliol of Bernard-castle ; and bore to him John Baliol, who was candidate for the Crown of Scotland. Robert Bruce by his wife had Robert Bruce who contended with Baliol. John Baliol's claim was founded on his mother's being heiress to the eldest daughter of Prince David ; Robert Bruce, although son to the second, yet contended that, in feudal succession, the first male ought to succeed before a female standing in the same degree, and therefore he and Baliol's mother being in the same degree from Prince David, he ought to be preferred ; as to her son John Baliol, he could claim no right but by her, and was a degree more remote from Prince David. Hastings the son of the youngest had no right in which Bruce was not preferable. Bruce's family had also been pointed out by Alexander II. when he despaired of issue.

Hearing that Scotland was so much distressed, 55
He thought, of it, he might be soon possessed.

To Norham, Edward and his Court repair ;
The Parliament of Scotland met him there.
Slily he thought to have them all his own,
As their O'er-Lord, to hold of him the Crown. 60

The Bishop then of Glasgow sitting by,
Said, Sir, excuse us, for we must deny
Any O'er-Lord, excepting God above.

The King was wroth, and made him to remove :
Covetous Baliol follow'd after fast ; 65

To hold of Edward, he agreed at last ;
Who quickly, 'gainst the right, made him King there ;

At which the Scots repined, with anxious care ;
Baliol to reign thus the estates dissent ;

Edward past South, conven'd his Parliament ; 70
Baliol

[L. 57. *Norham.*] A castle upon the river Tweed on the border of England.

[L. 60. *O'er-Lord.*] Over-Lord, Feudal Superior. Edward thought if he could not get the Crown *immediately*, to which he pretended some claim, he would get the kingdom to hold of him *mediately*, by interposing a King who should be his vassal ; whereby he would not only draw feudal services, and a great revenue from the casualties of superiority, but have a chance for the kingdom in consequence of the forfeitures incident to feudal holdings, such as disclamation, (disclaiming his superiority), or *purpresture*, (incroaching on him), either of which inferred a forfeiture of the feudal subject in favour of the superior.

[L. 61. *Bishop.*] Robert Wishart, Bishop of Glasgow.

[L. 69. *Estates.*] Estates of Parliament.

Baliol he call'd, as vassal for this land;
 Their deed our Parliament annull'd, off hand.
 An Abbot past, gave o'er th' allegiance straight;
 King Edward, griev'd at this, prepar'd for fight;
 An army rais'd, and came to Werk, on Tweed; 75
 But to commence the war had yet some dread.
 To Lord Corspatrick of Dunbar he sent,
 To ask his counsel, on oppression bent;
 Who soon was brought in presence of the King,
 And they, at once, agreed in every thing. 80
 Corspatrick march'd on straight for Berwick now;
 Receiv'd he was, and trusted to be true.

Edward

l. 71. *This land.*] Scotland, the scene of action, and country of the writer.

l. 73. *Abbot.*] Henry, Abbot of Aberbrothwick, had the hardiness to execute this embassy.

l. 75. *Werk.*] Werk Castle on the river Tweed.

l. 77. *Corspatrick.*] Earl of Dunbar and March, a descendant of a younger daughter of Allan Lord of Gallogway, who had probably some view to the Crown in joining Edward, and had also lands in England. Corspatrick was the Christian name of many of his predecessors. He swore fealty to Edward in 1296. In 1304 the Parliament of England (according to Douglas' Peerage) chose him a representative of Scotland; but, the Scottish matters taking a more favourable turn, he declined: Soon after that Bruce became King, he held out Dunbar against the English; and was appointed keeper of the peace on the English borders. He was afterwards attached to Bruce, and attended as one of the Great Barons in the Convention at Air settling the succession in 1315.

Edward with Captains followed of renown ;
 When after midnight, sleeping was the town,
 Corspatrick rose, the keys full well he knew, 85
 Let down the drawbridge, the portcullis drew,
 Open'd the gates, his banner caus'd display.
 Edward aware, foon towards him made way ;
 His force once enter'd, cruelly fell on ;
 Seven thousand men they kill'd ; they spared none. 90
 Corspatrick next he governor there made,
 Then to Dunbar without delay they sped.

By this an army was raised in the land,
 In battle here 'gainst Edward meant to stand:
 Those four brave Earls were in the castle, close, 95
 The Earls of Athole, Marr, Mentieth, and Ross ;
 Corspatrick plann'd it they should be kept in,
 That to their friends without they might not win,
 Nor they to them, any supply to make ;
 To battle then together fast they take ; 100

Sore

l. 91. Dunbar.] A town betwixt Edinburgh and Berwick, 27 miles from each.

l. 95. Castle.] The venerable ruins of the Castle of Dunbar are justly esteemed a remarkable piece of antiquity. There is no history nor tradition to fix the date of this building, or to point out the person by whom it was erected. Camden narrates that Corspatrick Earl of Northumberland retiring into Scotland from the Norman conquest was honoured by Malcolm Canmore with the castle of Dunbar and Earldom of March, and that his posterity afterwards took the name of Dunbar. *Statistical Accounts, Vol. 5. p. 484.*

Sore slaughter follow'd ; pity 'twas to see
 The Scots thus overset by subtlety ;
 Corspatrick, when they fighting were most warm,
 To the English turn'd, wrought the Scots much harm ;
 There is none in the world can hurt us more, 105
 Than one familiar, trusted much before ;
 Our men were butcher'd, without hesitation,
 And by these means near lost the Scottish nation.
 King Edward and Corspatrick past to Scone,
 And there of Scotland he got homage soon, 110
 For few were left the right cause to defend ;
 Then for the Baliol, to Montrose, they send,
 And him depos'd, from being King, outright,
 When Edward got himself stil'd King, on sight ;—
 And crown'd, too, in the famous marble chair 115
 Gathelus sent from Spain with so much care,
 At Canmore since King Fergus had it won,
 And brought and caus'd establish it at Scone :

VOL. I.

C

Upon

l. 110. Homage.] A great number of the Scots Barons were at this time compelled to give homage to Edward : But being brought about *vi et metu* (through force and fear) was not held as binding by many of them, who therefore retracted and joined Wallace.

l. 112. The Baliol.] *The* prefixed to a name signified that the person was the chief of that name.

l. 116. Gathelus.] The tradition is that Gathelus, or Gadalos, a Greek Prince, the son of Cecrops, (who, according to Newton's Chronology, lived about the time of Jehoram), settled colonies in Portugal, Ireland, and the West of Scotland. Certain it is that the Tyrians traded to Britain for lead at a period not later, at least there is the authority of Pliny for it ; and the dress and instruments of war formerly used in the Highlands do not disprove it.

Upon this stone our Kings, in splendor here,
 For upwards of eight centuries all crown'd were. 120
 This, as a trophy, quickly they transport,
 To London, where King Edward kept his Court;
 But yet 'tis said that ancient fates decree,
 Where that stone is Scots still shall masters be, }
 God chuse the time for Margaret's heir to see. } 125

Bruce, with seven score of heirs, from Scotland then,
 Were captive led away, by Englishmen;
 Edward his father's heritage him gave,
 But purpos'd still, in bondage, him to have,
 Both Blatock-mar was his, and Huntingdon; 130
 And Lord Corspatrick was rewarded soon,
 For

l. 125. Margaret's heir.] Sister to Edgar the last Prince of the line of Kings in England which preceded the Norman, and was married to Malcolm III. of Scotland. However this prediction may have risen it was verified, in the sense here understood, on the accession of James VI. of Scotland to the Crown of England, and continues so in the descendents of the Princess Sophia: Robert the first of the royal line of the Stewarts having succeeded as son to Marjory Bruce, who was descended of Malcolm and Margaret above-mentioned. Prince Edgar her brother having died without issue.

l. 126. Heirs.] We find in the course of the Poem that on Wallace's invading England, and their being forced to make peace with him, he brought back to Scotland an hundred of these eldest sons of the best families so carried away, and would have also brought Bruce, but it was proven he was with his uncle at Calais.

l. 130. Blatockmar, &c.] He was Lord of Huntingdon
 in

For the great friendship Edward from him found,
Protector he was made all Scotland 'round,
Which office he held only a short space :
But Wallace actions now deserve a place. 135

Scotland was lost when he was but a child,
By force o'erthrown, or treachery beguil'd ;
His father Malcolm to the Lenox fled,
His eldest son he thither also led ;
With him from Ellerslie his mother past, 140
For Gowrie bent, they to Kilspindie haste ;
The knight her father thither caus'd them send
Unto his uncle, a quiet life to spend ;
In Gowrie dwelt, and had large income there,
An aged man, us'd them with friendly care : 145
Then to Dundee young Wallace next was sent
For education, but his nat'ral bent
Restrain'd was only by his tender age,
For more grown up it put him in a rage,
To see an English brood such mischiefs bring, 150
And govern'd by a most unrighteous King :

C 2

Who,

in England, also Lord of Annandale in Scotland, and Earl of Carrick there, by his mother an heiress, Countess of Carrick. The Earldom of Carrick, with Rothsay, Renfrew, and Ross were since that period erected into a regality, and given to the Prince of Scotland for the time being, and, of course, at present to the Prince of Wales; in consequence of which he has his own establishment in Scotland.

l. 147. Education.] It appears from this, and Duncan Macdougall of Lorn being his school-fellow, (after taken notice of), that learning was not then confined to the Clergy.

Who, with great wroeng, here every thing confound,
 Wasted our lands, and broke our buildings down ;
 Maids, wives, and widows chastity they spill,
 Nor might the nuns resist their lustful will. 155

King Herod's part they acted, on Scots ground,
 Upon the children they before them found ;
 The bishoprics, that of most revenue were,
 From Bishops and Archbishops they took there ;
 Nor could the Pope them with his threat'nings scare ; 160
 They seiz'd on all, thro' violence and war.

Glasgow they gave, (our Bishop did offend them,)
 To Durham diocese, held *in commendam*.

Small benefices here they even pursue,
 And clergymen, stood for the right, they slew ; 165
 Our Barons kill'd, without remorse or care ;
 Nor youth nor rev'rend age made them to spare.

Wallace, as yet tho' young for sword and spear,
 Was griev'd, the Scots such injuries should bear ;
 These unjust deeds sat heavy on his mind, } 170
 Which to avenge he wish'd a time to find, }
 He loyal was, and of undaunted kind.

In

l. 163. in commendam.] A kind of stewardship. Upon the vacancy of a benefice, commendators were factors, or stewards, appointed to levy the fruits during the vacancy. They came at last to be named for life, and not liable to account. The Bishop had, as already mentioned, stood up for the independence of Scotland. Bishop Beck, one of King Edward's household, was at this time Bishop of Durham.

l. 164. small benefices.] Parsonages, vicarages.

In Gowrie dwelling with this good old man,
 As he t' advance in strength and wit began,
 To see the English still increasing more, 175
 He to the heart was griev'd exceeding sore;
 And by himself then often made his moan,
 For of his kindred they'd slain many a one;
 He was now stately, clever, stout and bold,
 His age exceeded not eighteen years old: 180
 A sword, or dagger, always us'd to wear;
 To fall in strife with them he had no fear,
 Where he found one, out of another's fight,
 To Scots this offer'd after no more flight,
 England could not him match in single fight. } 185
 Sundry were wanting, none knew in what way,
 For as to him they nothing had to say;
 Cautious in speech, wise, courteous, and benign,
 And of grave countenance, both old and young.

Upon a day he went unto Dundee, 190
 They him suspected not of cruelty,
 The Constable thereof then liv'd hard by,
 Was Selby call'd, who most maliciously

C 3

Oppress'd

l. 193. *The Constable.*] The governor and commander of cavalry. It was a hereditary constabulary, seized by Edward, and conferred on Selby. This was a local office, of the nature of the Lord High Constable's over the kingdom, who is still one of the High Officers of the Crown in Scotland; it is held by the family of Errol. We read of Charles de la Bret, High Constable of France, next after the princes of the blood. One of the Earls of Buchan held the same office there. It was early abolish-
 ed

Oppress'd the Scots with an invet'rate rage ;
 A son he had, near twenty years of age, 195
 Who some young fellows with him every day
 Took to the town, to sport the time away.
 A faucy fop, and much on mischief bent,
 He Wallace 'spied, and towards him straight went,
 Stout made and handsome, active, smart, and clean, 200
 Clad in a garment of a gemming green ;
 He call'd on him, and said, " Thou Scot abide,
 " What devil clad thee in so gay a weed ?
 " An Erse check'd mantle 'twas thy kind to wear,
 " Under thy belt a Scots whittle to bear, 205
 " Rough untann'd shoes, upon thy whoreson feet,
 " Give me thy dagger, what meanst thou so neat ?"

And

ed in England, as dangerous from its magnitude. Even this constabulary at Dundee was no small honour. Scrimgeour, appointed by Wallace to it, was ancestor of the Viscounts of Dudhope and Earls of Dundee. This explanation seemed the more necessary of a petty modern office having the same name ; and as the former versions have retained the word *constable*, for want of explanation, it made the passage, to a modern reader, absurd or incomprehensible.

l. 201. *gemming green*.] The colour of vegetables, or blossoms beginning to bud. Thus we find, " gemm'd their " blossoms." *Milt. Par. Lost. B. VIII. l. 324, 325*. The original word in the old Scots *germand*, when modernized, would be *germing* ; for which the other seems a corruption.

l. 207. *so neat*.] It is evident from this the people of fashion, in the lowlands of Scotland, dressed as well at that period as those in England ; and indeed, considering their frequent

And went his dagger then from him to've snatch'd,
 Fast by the collar Wallace has him catch'd,
 Under his hand his weapon out he fetch'd; 210
 And boldly, for no remedy he knew,
 There, without rescue, he young Selby flew.
 This young squire fell, of him there was no more,
 His men pursu'd 'gainst Wallace fast and fore.
 'The crowd rose thick, and their speed greatly mar'd, 215
 Wallace was speedy, danger great him scar'd:
 The bloody dagger bare, drawn in his hand,
 He spar'd none then, try'd his flight to withstand;
 The tavern knew his uncle had lodg'd in,
 Thither he fled, from town he could not win; 220
 Within the close the landlady saw he,
 Cry'd, "help! for him dy'd on th' accursed tree!"
 Young Selby has now fall'n by me, in strife,
 In at the door he went with this goodwife.

With

frequent intercourse with the French Court at Paris, and the Papal Court at Rome and Avignon, the gayest in the world, and their trade with the Flemish, the Genoese, and with Flanders, it is improbable it should have been otherwise. In the article of shoes, if not learned to be made from the Romans, among whom no less than fifteen kinds were used, as appears from Albertus Rubenius, they might be imported. In fact, the gentlemen in Scotland, in the thirteenth century, wore every thing equally handsome as in other places. The manuscript of Henry's Poem in the Advocates Library 350 years old, and the Poem itself near 90 years older, is evidence sufficient to confute a thousand conjectures to the contrary.

[L. 212 *Slew.*] See Appendix (11.)

With rufflet gown she quickly got him drest, 225
 Above his cloaths, which cover'd all the rest ;
 A 'kerchey o'er his head and neck let fall,
 A white woven hat she fix'd on him withal,
 And, as they would not tarry at that inn,
 Gave him a distaff, set him down to spin. 230
 In quest of Wallace here some time they pass,
 But knew not well in at what door he was ;
 In that same house they sought him carefully,
 But he sat still, and spun right cunningly ;
 They left him so, and to their way they went 235
 With heavy hearts, in grief and discontent.
 The Englishmen then all on havock bound,
 Cry'd, " burn the Scots within the town are found ;"
 Yet this goodwife held Wallace till the night,
 Made him good chear, and let him out with sleight, 240
 By a backway, she guided him forth fast,
 He thro' some wood, along the river past ;
 Forbore the gate, the watch was station'd there.
 His mother was by this in great despair ;

When

l. 225. With rufflet gown, &c.] If the reader is offended at this scene, let him recollect that Hercules, the most famous hero of Greece, is said to have drest himself in womens cloaths, and spun for the love of Omphale when arrived at manhood : That Achilles was for some time disguised as a woman among the daughters of King Lycomedes Wallace's age favoured the deception. The adventure has all the incidents necessary to credibility.

l. 242. River.] Tay.

When she had seen him, she thank'd Heaven's queen ; 245
 And said, dear Son, so long where hast thou been.
 He told his mother of the sudden case ;
 Then wept she fore, and said full oft, " Alas !
 " Ere that thou cease thou certainly wilt fall ;"
 " Mother, (he said,) God ruler is of all ; 250
 " These English robbers that possess our land,
 " Methinks we should most manfully withstand."
 His uncle wist that he the squire slew,
 On which account he in great terror grew.
 Thus things went on, till several days were past, 255
 Still dreading they'd take Wallace at the last.

The English every way most subtle grown,
 Prepar'd against the Scots indictments soon ;
 For the affizes in Dundee were set ;
 Wallace now thought 'twas best away to get ; 260
 His mother her equipt in pilgrim's weed,
 Himself disguis'd, they travell'd thence with speed ;
 Under his cloaths a short sword privately,
 For in that country many foes had he ;
 Both went on foot, with them then took they nought, 265
 When ask'd, they said they to St Marg'ret fought ;

From

l. 245. Heaven's queen.] Probably the Virgin Mary is here meant. The Scots at this time, and long after, were of the Roman Catholic persuasion. This is the more probable, as Henry holds by the theology of his country, in place of the Greek and Roman sometimes used by other poets.

l. 266. St Marg'ret.] Margaret Queen of Scotland before mentioned, so eminent for her piety as to be canonized.

From English folk great friendship thus they found,
 Because St Marg'ret came from English ground.
 Beside Lindores the ferry o'er they past,
 Then through the Ochil sped them in great haste; 270
 Within Dumfermline lodg'd them all the night,
 And on the morn, soon as the day was light,
 With gentlewomen happen'd to pass there,
 From England in Linlithgow dwelling were.
 A captain's wife in pilgrimage had been, 275
 When she them met, and had young Wallace seen,
 Good cheer them made, for he was wond'rous fair,
 Prudent in speech, well bred and debonair;
 Holding discourse of matters that were wrought,
 Till south o'er Forth together they were brought. 280
 As in Linlithgow they'd not tarry now,
 Their leave they take, to Dunipace they go;
 Where Wallace' uncle dwelt, a churchman great,
 Wallace his name, who liv'd there in good state,
 A man devout, that choicely caus'd them fare, 285
 With hearty welcome while they tarry'd there;

Made

nized. Pilgrimages to these saints were common. A pilgrimage to Becket's tomb at Canterbury is made the vehicle for Chaucer's Tales.

l. 274. *Linlithgow.*] A town 15 miles north-west of Edinburgh, where was a royal palace; also a religious house famous for a shrine of St Margaret kept there. In the palace here the Princess Elizabeth, daughter of King James VI. and mother of the Princess Sophia, from whom the present royal family of Great Britain is descended, was born.

Made them to know the land was all in fear,
Treated them well, and said, " My son, my dear,
" You and your mother both with me abide,
" Till better be, from chance that may betide." 290

Wallace replied, " I hasten to the west,
" Our kin are kill'd, at which I'm much distrest,
" And many more, by English, in that part,
" Will God I live, I hope to make them smart."
His uncle sigh'd, and said, " He had great doubt 295
" It would be long before that came about,"

Whate'er his fate, his purpose he'd pursue,
Then to his loving uncle bade adieu.

To Ellerslie he and his mother went,
She the next morning for her brother sent ; 300

In Corby dwelt, and sheriff was of Air,
His father dead, who long time had liv'd there.

Her husband too at Loudonhill was slain,
And brave Sir Malcolm, fill'd her heart with pain ;

Who when the sinews of his thighs were cut 305
English to death, upon his knees, he put,

Till with their spears they him at last surround,
And this brave knight receiv'd his mortal wound.

To Ellerslie I back again repair :

The good Sir Ronald met his sister there ; 310
Welcom'd them home ; she ask'd of him beside

That to Lord Piercy he would quickly ride
To purchase peace, in rest that she might be,
So tir'd she was, she could no farther flee ;

Sir

l. 312. Lord Piercy.] Henry Lord Piercy, ancestor of the Dukes of Northumberland, was governor of the castle of Air.

Sir Ronald had, from Piercy, a permission, 315
 Those to protect that would take a remission ;
 He, for his sister, caus'd write one out then,
 But Wallace held such measures in disdain ; }
 Therefore no longer would with her remain :
 His mother kiss'd, she wept at parting there, 320
 His leave he took, to Corby to repair.

Tho' young he 'gainst the English had such hate,
 Who carry'd all before them at such rate,
 Sir Ronald durst not well hold Wallace there,
 For fear of dangers, that appearing were ; 325
 The English held the whole strengths of the land,
 And what they did few durst or could withstand ;
 He Sheriff was, and still us'd them among,
 But much he dreaded Wallace suff'ring wrong ;
 For he and they could never well accord, 330
 He got a blow, were he mean man, or Lord,
 That offer'd to him any lightliness,
 And they repair'd a great deal to that place.
 English divines in prophecy too found,
 " A Wallace should expel them from Scots ground." 335
 Sir Ronald knew a quiet place, and good,
 Where Wallace might be better from their feud.
 With his old uncle, Knight of Riccarton,
 Sir Richard, who receiv'd him as his son,

Had

l. 337. Feud.] Ill-will, malice, desire of revenge, quarrel. *Deadly feud* was a term for hereditary quarrels, against which certain statutes were past in Scotland.

l. 339. Sir Richard.] He was an elder brother of Malcolm Wallace of Ellerlie. In the reign of David II. John Wallace of Riccarton, his descendant, married the
 heiress

Had by inheritance that whole estate,
 But he was blind, befel thro' courage great,
 By Englishmen, so hardly did he fare,
 When he was young, and resolute in war,
 Thro' hurt of veins, and losing of much blood ;
 He was a gentleman both wise and good. 345
 Wallace, in February's, to him sent,
 In May it happen'd from him forth he went,
 He serv'd him faithfully in all things there,
 As in that place most plainly might appear.

It chanc'd, for his diversion, on a day,
 'Bout the beginning of the month of May,
 He to Irvine water to take fish was bent,
 To lead his net, a boy forth with him went ;
 But he ere noon was sorely griev'd in mind,
 Because he had forgot his sword behind ; 355
 For just as they had drawn successfully,
 Lord Piercy and his court came riding by.
 Part of his men had Wallace fishing seen,
 To him rod up five clad in garments green,
 " St Martin's fish (said) Scot, we now must have ;" 360
 Wallace to them an answer meekly gave :

VOL. I.

D

" It

heirefs of Sir John Lindfay of Craigie, and was afterwards
 designed of Craigie ; Thomas Wallace of Craigie was
 created Knight-Baronet in 1669 ; Sir Thomas Wallace
 Dunlop of Craigie, Baronet, is the lineal representative.

l. 352. Irvine water.] It runs in its course near Riccar-
 ton, and falls into the sea at Irvine, a town in the west of
 Ayrshire.

l. 360. St Martin's.] This seems to have been an ex-
 pression

" It reason is methinks you should have part,
 " Abundance should be dealt still with free heart."
 He bade his boy give them of's fishing then :
 The English said, " Of thy dividing 't's plain, 365
 " We will not take, thou givest them too small."
 One 'lighted down and from the boy took all.
 Wallace said then, " If gentlemen you be,
 " Leave us some part, in downright courtesy.
 " An aged knight our lady serves to day, 370
 " Good friend leave part, and take not all away."
 " You shall have leave to go and fish for more,
 " Of fish indeed the river has in store.
 " We serve a Lord shall dine on them ere long." 374
 Then Wallace quick reply'd, " Thou'rt in the wrong."
 " Whom *thou'st* thou Scot? Faith *thou* deserv'st a blow!
 " Poor prating Scot, how darest *thou* speak so?"
 Then at him run, and out his sword did draw;
 With's fishing drag him Wallace kept in awe.
 Wallace with this fast on the cheek him took, 380
 Till down he fell, so forely he him strook.
 The sword flew thence, a ridge breadth, o'er the land,
 Wallace was glad, quick seiz'd it in his hand;
 Then with his sword a stroke across him gave,
 Under his hat, his neck afunder clave. 385
 The

pression used for any thing fortunate. Thus we find in
 Shakespeare, " Expect St Martin's summer, halcyon days."
 1st Part K. Hen. VI. Act I. l. 308. For it has no refer-
 ence to any Saint's day; counting old stile, it falls within
 Easter, to which Wallace alludes when he speaks of the
 old Knight serving *our Lady*, probably a term used for the
 Virgin Mary, or Lady of Loretto.

The other four, alighting from their horse,
 Have him attack'd at once, with all their force,
 On every side, they struck at him so strong,
 Great danger 'twas if this had lasted long ;
 Upon the head in great wrath he smote one, 390
 His shearing sword clave to the collar bone.
 Another on the arm, that stood hard by,
 He struck, till hand and sword on field both lie.
 Two others there fled to their horse again ;
 He kill'd the one was left upon the plain. 395
 Three flew he there, two fled, with all their might,
 After their Lord, but he was out of sight ;
 Taking the moor ere they Lord Percy join'd ;
 To him they rode, ere they durst look behind,
 And cry'd, " My Lord, abide, your men kill'd are 400
 " Most cruelly, in this false region here ;
 " Five of your men, who at the water staid,
 " Fish meant to bring, but there no profit made ;
 " We two escap'd, but of us slain are three."
 Lord Percy ask'd, " How many might they be ?" 405
 " We saw but one, discomfited us all."
 Then laugh'd he loud, and said, " Fool might they fall !
 " Since one has five of you so overthrown,
 " Who feels it most the devil may him moan :
 " For me, at present, he shall not be fought." 410
 After that Wallace thus this party fought,
 Their horse he took, and goods that with them were ;
 His sport gave over, and fish'd no more there.

D 2

The

l. 412. *Their horse, &c.*] Considering them as the nations enemies, he held this as lawful plunder.

The news so much surpriz'd the aged Knight,
He almost fainted in his nephew's sight ; 415
And said; " Dear son, the news afflict me sore,
" If they be known you may get harm therefore."
" Uncle (he said) no longer I'll abide,
" I'll try, an English horse, if I can ride."
With him he got a boy, service to make, 420
His uncle's sons he would not with him take.
This worthy Knight said, " Cousin, I pray thee,
" When thou want'st money, thou may'st get from me."
Silver and gold he likewise to him gave,
Wallace inclin'd, and humbly took his leave. 425

END OF BOOK FIRST.

APPEN.

APPENDIX

TO

BOOK FIRST.

No. I. (*page 18.*)

ARTIBUS his totum fremerent cum bella per orbem,
Nullaque non legis tellus mutaret avitas,
Externo subiecta jugo, gens una vetustis
Sedibus antiqua sub libertate resedit.
Substitit hic Gothi furor, hic gravis impetus haesit
Saxonis, hic Cimber superato Saxone, et acri
Perdomito et Neuster Cimbroy, si volvere priscos
Non piget annales, hic et victoria fixit,
Precipitem Romana gradum, quem non gravis Auster
Reppulit, incultis non squallens Parthia campis
Non aestu Meroe, non frigore Rhenis et Albis
Tardavit, Latium remorata est Scotia cursum,
Solaque Gens mundi est cum qua non culmine montis
Non rapidi ripis amnis, non objice Silvae,
Non vasti spatii campi Romana potestas
Munivit; gentes alias cum pelleret armis
Servitii, hic contenta suos defendere fines
Roma securigeris praetendit moenia Scotis.

Buchanan. Epithalam. Mariae postea Reginae Scotiae.

“Hence it was that when wars raged in every other
“part of the world, when there was no country which did
“not

“not change its ancient laws and bend under a foreign
 “yoke, that a single nation maintained its native posses-
 “sions and its former liberty. Here it was that the fury
 “of the Goths was forced to pause: Here was checked
 “the dreadful force of the Saxons, of the Danes who van-
 “quished the Saxons, and of the Normans who vanquish-
 “ed the Danes. If you do not blush to read the annals
 “of our ancestors, here it was that victorious Rome stop-
 “ped in its rapid course. She whom neither the formi-
 “dable Carthaginian repulsed, nor the horrid deserts of
 “Parthia, nor the burning sun of Ethiopia, nor the frozen
 “Elbe, nor the Rhine could stop, was compelled to pause
 “on the confines of Scotland. This was the only coun-
 “try in which the Roman Empire was bounded, not by
 “inaccessible mountains, not by the banks of a rapid
 “river, not by the barrier of a forest, or by an extensive
 “plain, but by walls and trenches. While by her arms
 “she was driving other nations from their native seats, or
 “reducing them to a disgraceful servitude, here alone
 “Rome was contented to defend her limits, and protect
 “herself by ramparts from the Caledonian battle-ax.”

Translation from Gardenstone's Miscellanies.

No. II. (page 20.)

PEDIGREE OF THE STEWARTS,

(So far as relates to the subject of this Book.)

Fleance, by Maria Mnesta, daughter to Griffith an Lewel-
 lin Prince of Wales, had Walter, first of the Sirname of
 Stewart,

Stewart, (from his being Lord High Stewart of Scotland;)
 his son was,
 Allan, his was
 Alexander, his
 James, his
 Walter, married to Marjory Bruce daughter to King Robert I. by whom he had a son, Robert II. King of Scotland, the first of the Royal line of Stewarts in Scotland.

No. III. (*page 31.*)

Buchananus (Lib. VIII. p. 250. Hist. Scot.) refert de eo (Gulielmo Wallace). Quod is, cum magna vi corporis atque animi esset, adhuc adolescens, nobilem juvenem Anglum, superbe sibi insultantem, occidit. Ob id facinus, profugus domo et latitans, fugae locum subinde mutando, annos aliquot transegit. Hac vitae consuetudine, corpus adversus omnes fortunae injurias duravit et animum saepe subeundis periculis ad majores audienda confirmavit.

Buchanan (Book VIII. p. 250.) relates of Wallace that,
 "Being of great strength of body and vigour of mind,
 "whilst he was only a youth, he slew a young English-
 "man of a noble family who was haughtily insulting him.
 "For this trespass, forced to leave his home and conceal-
 "ing himself, frequently changing the place of his retire-
 "ment, he passed several years. By this custom of living,
 "he hardened his body against all the injuries of fortune;
 "and confirmed his mind, from often undergoing dangers,
 "to greater things."

6 MA 50